



# Department of Justice

**United States Attorney David L. Huber  
Western District of Kentucky**

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CONTACT: SANDY FOCKEN  
PHONE: (502) 582-5911  
FAX: (502) 582-5097

## **IOWA WOMAN PLEADS GUILTY TO BANK FRAUD**

**– \$47,500 fraud**

LOUISVILLE, KY - Christal Luella Wessels, age 28, of Johnston, Iowa, pled guilty to one count of bank fraud and one count of conspiracy to commit bank fraud, U.S. Attorney David L. Huber of the Western District of Kentucky announced today.

Wessels admitted that she conspired with other individuals to execute a scheme to defraud Wells Fargo Bank, by using counterfeit credit cards, which contained valid Wells Fargo credit card account numbers, to obtain cash advances. Wessels admitted that, between May 19 and May 23, 2006, she personally obtained \$47,500 in fraudulent cash advances from banks in Louisville and Lexington, Kentucky, but that she personally received less than \$2,000 of this amount.

The maximum potential penalties are 35 years imprisonment, a \$1,000,000 fine, and supervised release for a period of 8 years.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Ann Claire Phillips, and it was investigated by the United States Secret Service.

The plea was entered before Jennifer Coffman, Judge, United States District Court, Louisville, Kentucky.

Wessels is scheduled to be sentenced before Judge Coffman on October 15, 2007, at 11:30 a.m., in Louisville, Kentucky.

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